2.5  Module: NU8201 Woman Centred Maternity Care in Ireland

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Module Leader</th>
<th>Cecily Begley, RGN, RM, RNT, MA, MSc, PhD, FFNRCSI, FTCD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional lecturers</td>
<td>Dr. Jo Murphy-Lawless, Dr. Colm O’Boyle, Fiona Hanrahan, Janet Murphy, Margaret Hanahoe, Susannah Sweetman, Dr. Maev Ann Wren</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECTS</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-requisite</td>
<td>Undergraduate Study</td>
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Rationale and Aims

Maternity care in Ireland is on the cusp of developing alternative, more women-centred models of care, in particular, midwife-led services. These developments are welcomed by women and midwives but are constantly being challenged by a number of major stakeholders. Practising midwives need to understand the rationale for introducing more women-centred care into their practice and should develop the skill of critically observing their own and others’ outcomes. The aim of this module is to provide a challenging opportunity for midwives to examine and reflect on current and changing practice. Students will be facilitated to develop their skills of critiquing models of care so that they can facilitate and engage with the changing health service to support and develop innovative, women-centred maternity services.

Module Content

- Current and predicted professional and societal trends in midwifery: a global, national and local perspective
- Woman-centred care, midwife-woman partnership, advocacy, kinship, collaboration
- Midwife as lead professional / primary carer and the expanded role of the midwife
- Contemporary models of midwifery care: shared care, midwife clinics, family birth centres, team midwifery, caseload midwifery, collaborative practice etc.
- Consumerism, consumer organisations, fostering and facilitating effective consumer representation
- Concept of safety and risk in maternity services and midwifery practice management
- Factors impacting on the organisation and delivery of midwifery care and maternity services in Ireland such as public/private health care, insurance cover, primary care

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

- Critique the politics of health-care and the impact of politics on childbearing woman and the current and future practice of the midwife;
- Challenge dominant or under-achieving models of maternity care;
- Critically evaluate models of midwifery care in Ireland and other countries;
- Differentiate the strengths and weaknesses of their development and implementation;
- Critically analyse the professional issues impacting on midwifery care;
- Appraise, summarise and explain to others the advantages and disadvantages of one contemporary model of midwifery-led care.
Methods of Teaching and Student Learning: Lecture, discussion, group work, private study, attendance at research conference, seminar presentation

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<tr>
<th>Methods of Assessment</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation (20 minutes)</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Contact Hours

| Direct Contact: Class and Online | 24 |
| Assessment Student Effort       | 50 |
| Specified Activities            | 50 |
| Self-Directed Learning          | 50 |
| Direct Contact: Supervision     | 26 |
| **Total Hours**                 | **200** |

Indicative Resources – *more detailed lists may be provided by module lecturers*

[http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Hospitals/midwifery%20north%20east.pdf](http://www.hse.ie/eng/services/Publications/services/Hospitals/midwifery%20north%20east.pdf)


Comhairle na nOspidéal (1976) *Development of Hospital Maternity Services - A discussion Document*. Comhairle na nOspidéal, Dublin.


KPMG (2008) *Independent review of maternity and gynaecology services in the Greater Dublin Area*  

